MBAM

MASTER BUILDERS ASSOCIATION MALAYSIA (MBAM) Persatuan Kontraktor Binaan Malaysia (MBAM) 马来西亚建筑商总会 (MBAM)

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PRESS STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

To extend construction operating hours to increase productivity

Kuala Lumpur, 26 November 2021 – The construction industry welcomes the Selangor state government's decision to standardise the operating hours for construction sites within the state from 8am to 6pm on Mondays to Saturdays.

The progression of construction works have been interrupted since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and affected by various movement control orders imposed. There were times that sites were not allowed to work or have been operating with low productivity rate due to compliance with standard operating procedures. Based on observation, the industry in general experienced a total stop work duration for at least 199 days and about 380 days of low productivity in greater Kuala Lumpur and Selangor.

Although the construction industry in Selangor state was allowed to resume full operations since 18 October 2021 in line with the National Recovery Plan (NRP) Phase 4, most construction sites are keeping busy to max out their operations capacity to catch up with the time loss to ensure projects can be completed within the stipulated time in contracts.

However, contractors are still finding it strenuous to keep up with all the delayed construction works within limited time. Therefore, MBAM would like to suggest to the Selangor state government to consider extending the construction operating hours to 7am until 7pm on Mondays to Fridays. This is because with the new normal, the daily procedures to scan for temperature and check-in with MySejahtera before workers are allowed entry to sites are taking up a substantial amount of time. Towards the end of each working day, construction



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sites would also need to spend a fair amount of time to do housekeeping clean up to ensure the safety of sites are being kept in check.

MBAM also hopes that other state governments would consider the same implementation. With the standardisation to extend construction operating hours, it would allow the industry to be able to close in on better productivity.

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## TAN SRI SUFRI HJ MHD ZIN

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## **Note to Editor:**

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